

DELAWARE SEASIDE R. R. CLUT

ISSUF #225

Editor - Bill Mixon

MAY 2023



A VIEW FROM THE CAB

First, Congratulations to Bill Ziegler and Skip Lee for a very successful show on April 29th. As always, Steve Cawunder and Betty Moffett did a great job setting up and operating the kitchen. The front door was manned by Ted Ibex and our esteemed former Treasurer John Martin. The Raffle was conducted by Bill Mixon and Mark Fisher, but somehow Bill seemed to be at two places at the same time, manning his sales tables as well. Doc and his crew once again broke records at the Club sales tables, including selling two HO Layout tables during the day. We had a steady flow of visitors all day, and I know there were a lot of families with young ones to enjoy the operating trains. I think in general the day went very well.

We have agreed to bring our Modular S Gauge layout to the Harrington Historic Society- Kids at the Rail-yard on June 10th. We will be housed in a tent of size large enough to protect the layout and the visitors as well. So, we have a lot of work to do to get the layout ready for this event. We are now sold out of ready-to-sell small layouts, and this will give us an opportunity to set up the S gauge modules so we can fine-tune the track work, install some accessories, and clean up some of the dioramas. Work continues on the permanent S Gauge layout at the club.

Doc has been busy clearing out part of our storage room so he could improve the ventilation on the north side heating and air conditioning, and then installed new shelving to store donations as they arrive. With things more orderly there, we can store layouts that we are planning to sell, as well as materials for those we get as donations.

Finally, we were busy in early April with investigations into the owner's plans to sell the property that we lease, and the other structures there as well. We checked into the possibility of buying the property, and after our research, put a question to members who attended the April 12th meeting. The result of this was our current financial situation would not support the monthly demands for the purchase, as our cash on hand could not approach a minimal down payment. We will therefore take our chances with whatever might happen down the road once the ownership does change.

John Hodges

HOLIDAY RAFFLE 2023

We kicked off the next fundraiser, the 2023 Holiday Raffle, at the Spring-Fling Train Show and sold the first 35 tickets to visitors. Tickets were also distributed to club members who attended the train show. The rest of you will be receiving tickets in the mail. If you need additional tickets, contact me at bmix425@gmail.com or call me at 302-745-1733. I thank all club members for your participation in this important endeavor.

Bill Mixon, Fundraiser Chairperson



Rehoboth Beach History Lecture

"Rehoboth's Railroad" May 11, 2023 (Thursday, 7:15pm - 8:30pm)



Rehoboth's railroad tracks extended up Rehoboth Avenue from 1884 through 1940. In the summer, in addition to two regularly scheduled daily trains, excursion trains of six to eight passenger train cars came into town with day trippers. Townsfolk watched with anticipation for the arrival of the train bringing mail, newspapers, movies, and their extended family members.



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NATIONAL TRAIN DAY - MAY 13

The Lewes Junction Railroad and Bridge Association (LJRBA) will be celebrating the railroading history of Lewes on National Train Day, Saturday, May 13th. The day's events will be centered at the historic Lewes Junction site, home of the recently restored caboose.

LJRBA's program begins at 12:00 pm in front of the red caboose in Stango Park and will feature invited speakers and the official christening of the caboose and ceremonial driving of our own golden spike into the restored railroad track. The caboose will be open for public viewing.

Next door in the Rollins Community Center, at 1:30 pm, the Lewes Historical Society will offer a lecture on the railroad's importance to Lewes and Sussex County.

Concluding the day's festivities, Doug Poore, author of several books on Delaware railroad history, will present a lecture at 2:30 pm in the library.



Activities start at 10:00 am, with a model railroad display courtesy of the Shoreline Garden Railroad Club.



The original "golden spike", hour. on display at the Cantor Arts Museum at Stanford Golde University obser

History of National Train Day

Modern trains have developed rapidly since their invention some 200 years ago. Trains can be classified as one of the most important inventions of modern history. Train transport has drastically changed business, exploration, and the way we travel daily.

In the 1800s, the steam train made its way to the railways of industrial England. Today, we have bullet trains that carry passengers at incredible speeds, with a distance of thousands of miles in no time. There are also freight trains that are used to transport goods, including food, post, and fuel. Distant lands have become almost instantly reachable. Long distances can be covered in a matter of hours. The industrial revolution was hastened by the arrival of trains, which made the transport of raw materials and outgoing transport of finished goods an easy task. Even with the arrival of airplanes, trains still continue to do a fair haul of public and commercial transport around the world. Trains are used in a variety of ways - from trams, subway electric trains, distance trains, and specialized tourist trains to freight trains and high-speed bullet trains that can go up to 275 miles an hour

National Train Day marks the anniversary of the establishment of the Golden Spike in Promontory, Utah, at the Promontory summit. The day also observes the first anniversary of the rail route system in the United States. Events such as exhibitions of railroad layouts are organized on the day to celebrate the event.